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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
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COUNTRY Germany

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SUBJECT Russian Plans for Increased Interzonal Trade

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. A special section for "interzonal barter" has been created in the Central Administration of Trade and Supply under Breitenfeld's Department. The SMA has instructed the Central Administration of Industry to include the western zones in planning. It is expected that iron, basic chemicals, and steel may be obtained from the west. Every effort is to be made to assure prompt execution of orders for delivery to the west; however, no delivery is to be made until the articles bartered for arrive from the west. Despite this emphasis on interzonal barter, negotiations are proceeding with [redacted] Poland, Czechoslovakia [redacted]

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[redacted] an industrial conference in Leipzig on 5 February 1947 was attended by a large number of SMA officers from various regions and the heads of all the "group leader" companies. Colonel Abramovich and Chief Engineer Voronin from Karishorst were the leading Russian representatives. The subject of the conference was the expected changes in interzonal trade. Voronin demanded that prompt delivery of orders to the western zones be guaranteed. Each group leader is to be held responsible for prompt delivery by firms in the group. Voronin announced that twenty percent of the industrial capacity requisitioned by the Russians would be freed to make it easier to place the orders.

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[redacted] Comment: The main hope of the Russians is to establish a favorable raw material exchange with the western zones, and thus to be able to cease trade negotiations with other European countries. At present, negotiations are under way [redacted]

[redacted] for the delivery of precision measuring instruments, which might be obtained from the western zones after zonal unification.

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